

*You can add an
historic 68-year old coin design
to your collection.*



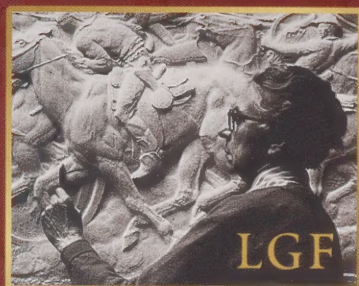


THE UNITED STATES MINT
IS PROUD TO PRESENT

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
COMMEMORATIVE
\$5.00 GOLD COIN

DESIGNED BY
LAURA GARDIN FRASER
IN 1931!





Laura Gardin Fraser's original plaster model.



This year marks the *George Washington 1999 Bicentennial* celebrating the "Father of His Country's" life and legacy. But 1999 also marks the 68th anniversary of the creation of an exceptional coin in honor of George Washington—a coin that was never minted—until now!

1931—THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL COIN COMPETITION

In anticipation of the nation-wide observance of the 200th Anniversary of George Washington's birth, the U.S. Congress called for the creation of a special new quarter dollar. Guidelines required that the obverse depict a portrait of Washington modeled after the famed life-mask bust by noted French sculptor Jean Antoine Houdon. The reverse was to feature an original design—"national" in nature.

One of the most popular coin designs submitted for this open competition was done by sculptor and medalist Laura Gardin Fraser. This artist, wife of famed sculptor James Earle Fraser (designer of the famed Buffalo Nickel), had already designed a number of U.S. coins. Her powerful medallion creation was judged by Dr. Cornelius Vermeule, author of *"Numismatic Art in America"* to be "one of the most spectacular ever to be prepared for a U.S. coin."

Now You Can Own a Very Special Piece of History

1999—THE U.S. MINT PRESENTS THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
COMMEMORATIVE—68 YEARS LATER!

Now, the United States Mint is proud to announce the inaugural striking of Laura Gardin Fraser's original 1931 award-winning design.

This lustrous five-dollar, legal tender gold coin whose design was created some 68 years ago features an artistically stunning, firm-jawed, right facing bust of Washington on the obverse and on the reverse a powerful bald eagle with exquisitely detailed overlapping planes of rough feathers.

CELEBRATE THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

The story of Laura Gardin Fraser's award-winning design is just part of the saga of this special commemorative issue. At the heart of the coin's history is the man who is celebrated by this magnificent coin.

An impressive man, both physically and historically, George Washington courageously led our nation to independence, then steered us through those first years as an incomparable leader. It is through his legacy that our nation not only survived, but prospered. This new commemorative coin is destined to achieve numismatic importance as both a stunning work of art and as a lasting remembrance of our founding father.

YOUR PURCHASE HELPS CARRY FORWARD THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON!

*This special commemorative honors Mount Vernon's
George Washington 1999 Bicentennial celebration.*



Since 1853 The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association has dedicated its resources to preserve and protect George Washington's home and to educate the American people about his undying legacy.

It is fitting, therefore, that a portion of your payment is authorized to continue their work of perpetuating the memory of George Washington and the management of his estate for all Americans.

THE EPITOME OF CRAFTSMANSHIP

Only the United States Mint could create a gold coin that is the epitome of art, skill and craftsmanship. The proof blanks are individually hand-fed onto presses fitted with specially polished dies, then struck at least twice for exceptional brilliance and unmatched detail.

Destined to be a centerpiece of any collection, the George Washington Commemorative Five-Dollar Gold Coin will be issued in both uncirculated and proof versions. This is the only gold commemorative coin to be issued by the U.S. Mint in 1999.

SPECIAL PRE-ISSUE SAVINGS FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

This legal tender Commemorative Five-Dollar Gold Coin is now available to collectors at special, pre-issue discount prices. This savings on both uncirculated and proof coins is for a very limited time.

The proof \$5.00 gold, regularly offered for \$225, can be ordered now for just \$195. The uncirculated coin, regularly \$205, can be yours for \$180. In addition, a very special two-coin set, normally \$399, is now available for a short time only for just \$350.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to pay tribute to the life and work of George Washington while adding a truly remarkable, historic coin to your collection.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON COMMEMORATIVE FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD COIN

A lasting tribute to the "father of his country"



Proof \$5.00 Gold



Two-Coin Set



Uncirculated \$5.00 Gold

For fastest service, visit www.USMINT.gov
or call 1-800-USA-MINT.

WEIGHT:
8.359 grams.

COMPOSITION:
90% gold,
10% alloy.

DIAMETER:
.850 inches.

MINT:
West Point

MAXIMUM
AUTHORIZED MINTAGE:
100,000 coins.



UNITED STATES MINT
Department of the Treasury
Serving America Since 1792

Companion View of the West Front of Mount Vernon attributed to Edward Savage, circa 1792.
Photos: *Washington Crossing the Delaware*, engraving by Paul Girardet, after a painting by Emanuel Leutze, circa 1853. Not to be reproduced without the express written permission of The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association.

©1999 United States Mint Coins are not shown actual size.



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
UNITED STATES MINT
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

Dear Collector:

For numismatists, George Washington was more than our nation's first commander-in-chief, foremost founding father, and first president. He is the man whose profile carves deep and lasting contours in a tradition of American coinage that's rich with extraordinary legends and moving stories.

You know one such story—the story of artist Laura Gardin Fraser, whose powerfully conceived profile of Washington and rough-hewn realism of the American Bald Eagle triumphed in the 1931 coin competition observing the bicentennial of George Washington's birth—an acclaimed design that never appeared on the nation's coinage.

I am proud to present the coin that revives Washington's numismatic legacy and recognizes Laura Gardin Fraser's eminence as artist and designer, the only gold commemorative coin we'll issue in 1999, the George Washington Commemorative \$5 Gold Coin.

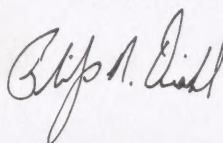
Proof and uncirculated versions honoring the 200th anniversary of Washington's death render her original design in faithful detail with exacting craftsmanship. Each coin bears the West Point Mint mark. And each bears Laura Gardin Fraser's initials—a tribute that fully and finally places her stature with that of her renowned husband, James Earle Fraser, designer of the Buffalo Nickel.

What's more, part of the sales proceeds are authorized to fund The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association—our country's oldest national historic preservation organization—to preserve Mount Vernon and educate the public about this great man and his gifts to his nation. Your purchase sustains Washington's legacy for all Americans.

Demand for a coin of this commemorative and artistic significance is expected to be strong. I urge you to order now. Mintage is limited to 100,000, and pre-issue pricing is favorable. Regularly \$225, the proof coin is \$195. The uncirculated coin, regularly \$205, is \$180. The stunning \$399 two-coin set is \$350.

For you to receive this magnificent coin at pre-issue savings, we must have your order by June 25. But remember: they may be sold out before that date. Please give us the chance to reserve your coin at the earliest possible moment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip N. Diehl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Philip" being more prominent.

Philip N. Diehl

Director

United States Mint

P.S. For the fastest service, visit our website at www.usmint.gov or call
1-800-USA-MINT.